The Director of Central Intelligence

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Honorable Clement J. Zablocki, Chairman Committee on International Relations House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in response to your request for views on H.R. 8683. the "Foreign Surveillance Protection Act of 1977." The bill would require that certain actions be taken by the President once he has reason to believe that electronic surveillance on behalf of a foreign power is being conducted in this country by a person who has diplomatic immunity.

The issues which the bill addresses have been the subject of extensive deliberations within the Executive Branch. In November 1977, the President approved an approach I believe will meet the objectives of H.R. 8683, will permit a series of actions to be taken consistent with the rights of American citizens, and will provide for orderly and flexible Administration actions through diplomatic channels. Moreover, the proposed intelligence charter legislation, H.R. 11245, the "National Intelligence Reorganization and Reform Act of 1978," which in its present form directs the National Security Council to address the problems of communications security within the United States, is likely to result in further consideration of this matter.

In view of these considerations, it would appear that legislation in this area is unnecessary and I therefore recommend against further action on H.R. 8683 by your Committee.

The Office of Management and Budget has advised there is no objection to the submission of this report from the standpoint of the Administration's program.

Yours sincerely,

SIGNED

STANSFIELD TURNER

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